



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Tetsuya MINO

Application No.: 10/687,643

Filed: October 20, 2003

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner:

Atty. Dkt. No.: 100186-00020

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THIN-FILM MAGNETIC HEAD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

November 5, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date or the date of filing a CPA, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, or (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
4. The reference(s) was/were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 09/734,758, filed December 13, 2000, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,

ARENT FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN, PLLC



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CMM:mso

Enclosures: PTO-1449 Form



Sheet 1 of 2

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
100186-00020

SERIAL NO.
10/687,643

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT
Tetsuya MINO

FILING DATE
October 20, 2003

GROUP
Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
AA	5,673,163	09/30/1997	Uri COHEN			
AB	5,938,941	08/17/1999	Nobuyuki ISHIWATA, et al.			
AC	5,639,509	06/17/1997	Terence D. SCHEMML			
AD	5,452,164	09/19/1995	R. Wade COLE, et al.			
AE	5,878,481	03/09/1999	Young-Chang FENG, et al.			
AF	6,320,725 B1	11/20/2001	Alexander P. PAYNE, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES NO PART.
AG						
AH						
AI						
AJ						
AK						
AL						

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AM	
AN	
AO	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



Sheet 2 of 2

FORM PTO-1449

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APPLICANT Tetsuya MINO	
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
AA	4,681,813	07/21/1987	Hirohide YAMADA, et al.			
AB						
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES NO PART.
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